

Applicant:

Goddard et al.

Docket No.:

39780-2730P1C26

Serial No.:

09/997,542

Group Art Unit:

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Landsman, Robert S.

For:

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PRELIMINARY RESPONSE

MS: RCE

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

On August 11, 2005, the Examiner made a final rejection to pending Claims 119-123. A Notice of Appeal was filed on October 28, 2005, and Appellants' Appeal Brief was filed January 26, 2006. An Examiner's Answer was mailed on February 28, 2006 and a Reply Brief was filed April 11, 2006.

This Preliminary Response accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR §1.114 for the above identified application. Applicants' arguments presented in the previously filed Appeal Brief and Reply Brief are incorporated by reference herewith in their entirety.

This submission is accompanied by a new Declaration under 37C.F.R. §1.132 by Dr. Paul Polakis with Exhibits A and B. Also enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement with copies of additional references in support of the Applicants' arguments. Applicants respectfully request that the Information Disclosure Statement and Declaration be made of record in the above-identified application, and be considered by the Examiner.

Pending Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.